

To The Alphabet And Beyond!



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A little history about the BT grant...

- Begun in 1998 as the Bioterrorism and Emergency Response Grant
- Funded through the Centers for Disease Control
- Originally consisted of five separate sections
 - A: Preparedness Planning and Readiness Assessment
 - B: Surveillance and Epidemiology Capacity
 - C: Laboratory Capacity - Biologic Agents
 - D: Laboratory Capacity - Chemical Agents (unfunded)
 - E: Health Alert Network/Training

Began as a competitive grant...

- Not all focus areas funded in all states
- Planning not funded first
- Attacks of September 11, 2001, and the subsequent anthrax incidents created a groundswell of support from the public, from the President, and from Congress
- Subsequently, additional money was found for supplemental funds awarded in May 2002

Changes to the grant

- Focus Area E was changed and two new sections created
 - E: Health Alert Network / Communications and Information Technology
 - F: Communications and Risk Assessment
 - G: Education and Training
- All sections funded based on population
- Underlying thought to the entire grant: **READINESS!**

Focus on the Focus Areas



When in doubt, sing!

Focus Area A: Preparedness Planning and Readiness Assessment

- Use DL technology to help train public health leaders and managers
- Use DL systems to help train staff in event response, exercise plans
- Use DL systems during response activities or in the case of an actual event

Focus Area B: Surveillance and Epidemiology Capacity



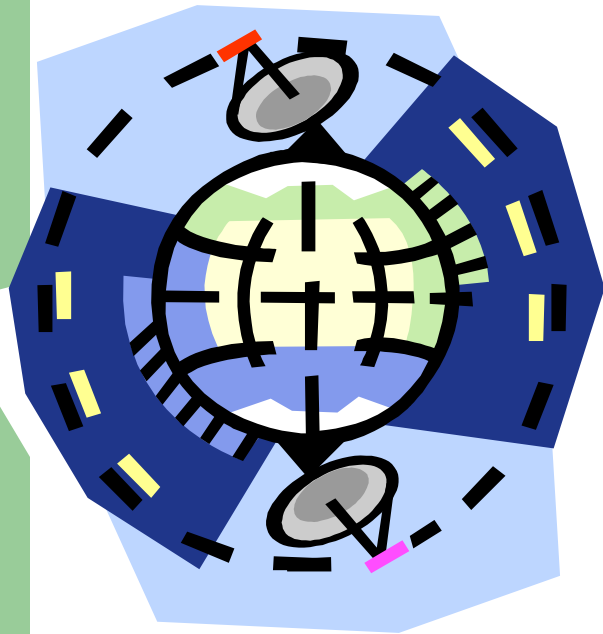
- Help provide training to hospital staff regarding reportable disease requirements to help improve surveillance systems
- Make sure your LMS is NEDSS compatible

Focus Areas C and D: Laboratory Capacity

- Use DL technology to provide training for hospital and laboratory staffs
- Help provide training for the Laboratory Response Network



Focus Area E: Health Alert Network and Communications and Information Technology



- Work with your HAN coordinator to improve, upgrade your distance learning technology
- Keep abreast of upgrades to your IT infrastructure to be ready to take advantage of future DL possibilities

Focus Area F: Risk Communication and Health Information Dissemination

- Use DL technology to train and practice for media encounters
- Use DL technology to help plan communications for special needs communities



Focus Area G: Education and Training

- Training is what it's all about, and DL is the now and the future of training
- Urge your state to use this money to build on existing DL infrastructure rather than creating new systems; show them how this will work
- Think beyond satellites; embrace computer-based training, videoconferencing, self-study, etc.

The Top 10 Reasons to BT



Not to be confused
with the BT Rap...

Top 10 Reasons to BT

- 10: Because being a Lemming can be fun!
- 9: The meetings aren't always in Atlanta.
- 8: You'll learn things that you can use to gross out your friends and family during the holidays.
- 7: You can finally pay for that gross of No. 2 pencils you've had your eye on.

Top 10 Reasons to BT

- 6: For women only: It's one of the few public health areas where the men usually outnumber the women at meetings.
- 5: For men only: Chicks dig guys who at least appear to be living on the edge.
- 4: When the funding runs out, you'll have a whole new set of semi-useless skills to put on your resume.

Top 10 Reasons to BT

- 3: Because you get to focus on crime and pestilence, since you don't already have enough to do in public health just taking care of disease.
- 2: You always need another reason to sing the Alphabet Song.
- 1: Because if we ever actually do have a BT incident, you'll be first in line for the vaccine!